

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner Cesar B. Paula's courtesy of extending a telephone interview on July 30, 2003. As discussed during that interview, independent claims 1, 8, and 15 are being amended to recite "data" rather than "field." Claims 8 and 15 are further amended to recite "the data conversion routines for converting data from one data type having an input attribute to another data type having an output attribute." Dependent claims are also being amended to refer to "data" rather than "field" for antecedent basis purposes. The amendments herein are made to further clarify what is being recited; these amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims in any way.

As discussed in the telephone interview, neither Devanbu (U.S. Pat. No. 5,826,256) nor Kuwahara (U.S. Pat. No. 6,202,072) discloses or suggests converting data types. In addition, Mcallum (U.S. Pat. No. 5,784,635) does not disclose or suggest that which Devanbu or Kuwahara fail to disclose or suggest.

Further, in the Response to Arguments of the Office Action (page 5), Examiner states that applicant relies on features not recited in the rejected claims, that is "a plurality of data field conversion routines..." However, claim 8 does recite "a plurality" of data conversion routines.

This communication is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and every effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance. It is submitted that no new issues are being presented by this amendment. In view of the foregoing explanation, a favorable Office Action is hereby earnestly solicited.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Examiner is requested to telephone the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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